

Remarks**1. Amendment to the Specification**

Applicants have again amended the paragraph setting out the Cross-Reference to Related Applications. This application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to two lines of co-pending applications. The co-pending applications have common inventors, Mink and Goldstein. This application now claims continuation-in-part status from of U.S. Application No. 09/280,269, filed March 29, 1999, and divisional status U.S. Application No. 09/292,293, filed April 15, 1999, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,303,081. Applicants have amended Cross-Reference to indicate that it is U.S. Application No. 09/280,269 that claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119 from U.S. Provisional Application 60/079,952, filed March 30, 1998.

Upon filing, this application claimed divisional status from the parent '293 application and priority to the '952 provisional application. Applicants previously amended the cross-reference to related applications to remove reference to the '952 provisional application. The '293 parent application was filed over twelve months after the '952 provisional application.

The '269 application, filed March 29, 1999, names common inventors (Mink and Goldstein) and was co-pending with this application at the time it was filed on October 11, 2001 and discloses essentially the same subject matter. Filed within the '269 application claims priority to the '952 provisional application.

The Decision on Petition mailed May 28, 2004 correctly pointed out that this application was filed October 11, 2001, over twelve months from the filing of the '952 provisional application. As discussed above, it is the '293 application, filed March 29, 1999, which claims priority to the '952 provisional application, filed March 30, 1998. The previously submitted Cross-Reference did not clearly set forth this relationship. Applicants have amended the specification to clarify the priority relationships. A renewed petition for acceptance of late claim for priority under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 accompanies this proposed amendment.

2. Conclusion


Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment to the specification.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-2380. If a fee is required for an extension of

time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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